



by Jason MacNeil

Army of Me

MARCHING FORWARD WITH CITIZEN

"Going Through Me" also underwent a similar process. "The producer (Michael "Elvis" Baskette) said to me on that song, 'I think you guys need a better bridge in the song,'" Scheuerman recalls. "So

I went out on the back porch, right in front of the beach, played my guitar and came up with the bridge. I showed it to everyone else the next morning and it was cool."

The singer also says he seems to know when a song is finished. "I have some friends who are songwriters, and once they write something they don't go back and touch it," he says. "I'm not that way. I'm more likely to tear it apart. I won't write a song and mess with something that really stands out. As long as I have something there, everything grows from that."

Army of Me is spending much of 2007 on the road behind *Citizen*. And despite the odds being against them, Scheuerman says it's something they have to do.

"I think it's a challenge sometimes to pursue something that you love," he says. "It's not your average everyday job where you have your health insurance and everything is set up there for you. The chances of making it are so slim, but then at the same time you have to follow your heart." ○

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having much
more of it.

"We were in the studio for a couple of months and had a chance to try out a lot of different things and get it to a place where we felt really good about the songs and how things sounded," Scheuerman says. "We got the right performances."

Army of Me recorded 15 songs for the record, with 12 making it onto the album. *Citizen* contains several above average rock songs, whether it's the moody "Going Through Changes," the roots-y "Rise" and the guitar-driven "Perfect."

"I think it sounds great, and I love how the recording came out," Scheuerman says of "Perfect." "Sometimes you have favorite songs going into a recording, but then after they're recorded, some songs come together in a studio better than others; some sort of magic happens. It clicked in every way for me."

Put Army of Me lead singer and guitarist Vince Scheuerman in front of a microphone onstage and he's extremely comfortable. However, put him in front of a microphone at a radio station and things might not go as smoothly.

"After listening back to the first couple of weeks, I realize I'm not meant to be a DJ," the singer says after co-hosting a new XM radio program called XMU A.I.R. Time. "I have the utmost respect for on air broadcasters and what they're able to do with mic time and how they can talk without sounding like a total idiot."

The Washington, D.C. band recently released its new album *Citizen* on Doghouse Records, the label which launched bands like All American Rejects and Limbeck. Another important difference between making this album and previous EPs was